

## MCLEOD POND (Colrain)

## General Information:

This is a 40-acre warm water pond with an average depth of approximately four feet and a maximum depth of eight feet. The water is brown in color and the bottom is mud with numerous outcroppings of rock. There are one and a half miles of shoreline, all of it wooded and undeveloped. Emergent aquatic vegetation covers 60% of the surface area. Access is the left fork off Stacy Road, a dirt road often suitable only for 4X4 vehicles. The only boat launching facility is an informal gravel ramp for car top boats and canoes.

This pond can be located on the U.S.G.S topographical quad maps titled "Heath" and "Colrain." Nearby fishing areas include the North and Green Rivers.

## Fish Populations:

A 1979 fish population assessment found only five species. Chain pickerel are the only gamefish present. Nongame fish include pumpkinseed, yellow perch and brown bullhead. Golden shiners are the chief forage base.

## Fishing:

Anglers may be attracted to the remote, undeveloped setting, but unfortunately sport fishing is generally poor here. The overall species complex is unbalanced and dominated by pumkinseeds. Chain pickerel display poor growth rates and legal size fish seem scarce. Bullheads are about five times less numerous than yellow perch and generally range from about seven inches to just under 11 inches. An experimental stocking of tiger muskies went in here in 1991, with the expectation of legal fish (28-inch minimum size) in 1996. The best fishing for now, however, is for abundant yellow perch ranging from five to ten inches in length.

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